

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-8 are amended herein. Claims 1 and 9 are cancelled herein without prejudice. Claims 10-17 are added herein. Claims 2-8 and 10-17 remain in the application. No new matter has been added. Consideration and examination is respectfully requested.

1. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER (OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 3-5):

In item 5 on page 5 of the Office Action dated 12 April 2004 (Paper No./Mail Date 0404) referred to hereinafter as Paper 0404, claims 3-5 were objected to as "being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." Applicant respectfully traverses the objection. However, to overcome the objection of Paper 0404, claims 3-5 have been rewritten so as to include the limitations of their base claim (claim 1) as written prior to the present Amendment. There were no intervening claims. Thus, Applicant has overcome the objection of Paper 0404, and claims 3-5 are allowable.

2. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 2, & 6-9 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

In item 3 on page 2 of Paper 0404, claims 1, 2, and 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Lattimore et al.* in U.S. Patent 6,021,512 entitled "Data Processing System Having Memory Sub-Array Redundancy and Method Therefor", hereinafter *Lattimore* in view of *Kablanian et al.* in U.S. Patent Number 5,764,878 entitled "Built-In Self Repair System for Embedded Memories", hereinafter *Kablanian*. Applicant respectfully traverses. However, claims 1 and 9 have been cancelled from the Application without prejudice.

Regarding Above Rejection of Dependent Claims 2 & 6-8 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Because dependent claims 2 and 6-8 depend from independent claim 3, it is noted that dependent claims 2 and 6-8 have all the features described above for independent claim 3 as elements. Because independent claim 3 is allowable, it follows that claims 2 and 6-8, which depend from independent claim 3, are also allowable.

3. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 6, 8, & 9 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

In item 4 on page 4 of Paper 0404, claims 6, 8, and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Lattimore* and *Kablanian* and further in view of *Dreibelbis et al.* in U.S. Patent Number 6,185,709 entitled "Device for Indicating The Fixability of a Logic Circuit", hereinafter *Dreibelbis et al.* Applicant respectfully traverses. However claim 9 has been cancelled from the application without prejudice.

Regarding Above Rejection of Dependent Claims 6 & 8 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Because dependent claims 6 and 8 depend from independent claim 3, it is noted that dependent claims 6 and 8 have all the features described above for independent claim 3 as elements. Because independent claim 3 is allowable, it follows that claims 6 and 8, which depend from independent claim 3, are also allowable.

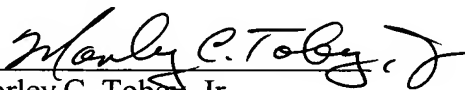
4. REGARDING NEW CLAIMS 10-17:

For reasons that are readily apparent new claims 10-17 are also allowable.

5. IN CONCLUSION:

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. Applicant believes that all claims pending in the Present Application as described above are allowable and that all other issues raised by the Examiner have been rectified. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider his rejections and to grant an early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

by 
Morley C. Tobey, Jr.
Reg. No. 43,955

July 12, 2004
Loveland, CO 80537
(970) 669-1266